1	2	3	4	5
17	Meghalaya	2	20	1000
18	Mizoram	106	51	2550
19	Nagaland	8	16	800
20	Orissa	231	1024	46200
21	Punjab	345	1146	42300
22	Rajasthan	155	465	23250
23	Sikkim	9	9	450
24	Tamil Nadu	800	2140	123727
25	Tripura	12	12	600
26	Uttar Pradesh*	1010	2550	117500
27	Uttarakhand	111	-	*
28	West Bengal	39	39	1950
29	A & N Islands	3	3	150
30	Chandigarh	20	58	2900
31	D & N Haveli	2	2	100
32	Daman & Diu	0	2	250
33	Delhi	207	93	4650
34	Lakshadweep	Nil	-	Nil
35	Puducherry	20	18	800
	TOTAL:	9583	20588	1002707

* Information not available

Increase of bonus limit for industrial workers

374. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have increased the bonus limit for industrial workers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of additional workers going to get benefit due to latest move, particularly in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Payment of Bonus (Amendment) Ordinance, 2007 has been promulgated on 27th October, 2007 to raise the eligibility limit for payment of bonus from the salary or wage of Rs. 3500/- to Rs. 10,000/- per month and the calculation ceiling from Rs. 2500/- to Rs. 3500/- per month.

(c) Since the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 applies to every factory and every other establishment in which twenty or more persons are employed on any day during an accounting year, no such data is available.

Setting up of offices of EPF Commissioners

375. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under active consideration of the Union Government to set up new offices of EPF Commissioners in the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof and when such offices are expected to be set up; and

(c) how far such offices shall be helpful for the EPF beneficiaries particularly in the districts where the number of labour employees is large one?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The proposal for opening of an office in a State is recommended by the Regional Committee of the State and subsequently considered by the Executive Committee in accordance with the criteria prescribed. The sanctioning of new offices is governed by the norms/parameters devised by the National Productivity Council and approved by the Executive Committee, Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund. The following factors are generally taken into account for opening of different categories of offices:

- Workload Factor
- Service Level Factor
- Enforcement Level Factor

The details of locations considered for setting up of offices are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The opening of a new office is aimed at providing benefits to the workforce in a region nearer to their door steps by providing access for improved service delivery by way of:

- Access of their accounts
- Refunds of benefit
- Extending coverage
- Minimizing defaults

Statement

Details of locations considered for setting up of new offices of EPF in the States:

Sl. No.	Proposals
1	2
1	Bhilai (Chhattisgarh)
2	Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh)
3	Mysore Road (KN)
4	Alipurduar (WB)
5	Aizwal Mizoram (NER)
6	Tiruppur (TN)
7	Andheri (MH)
8	Haldia (WB)
9	Okhla (DL)
10	Kurnool (AP)
11	Bharuch (GJ)
12	Bokaro (Jharkhand)
13	Hosur (TN)
	Vijayanagaram (AP)

1	2
15	Allahabad (UP)
16	Satna (MP)
17	Yelahanka (KN)
18	Udupi (KN)
19	Nagercoil (TN) Kanyakumari
20	Jamnagar (GJ)
21	Ghaziabad (UP)
22	Ambala (HR)
23	Vijayawada
24	Uppal (AP)
25	Tirupati (AP)
26	Hissar (HR)
27	Erode (TN)
28	Margao (GOA)
29	Pallakkad (KR)
30	Tumkur (KN)
31	Khammam (AP)
32	Shahjahanpur (UP) (Insp.)
33	Karaikal (TN Insp.)
34	Kanyakumari (Nagarcoil) (TN) Service Centre
35	Jhansi (UP)
36	Parwanoo (HP)
37	Baddi (HP)
38	Panchkula (HR)
39	Tuticorin (TN)
40	Baswada (RJ)
41	Godhra (GJ)
42	Nanded (Nagpur)
43	Pathanamthitta (KN)

Safeguard on labour laws in the SEZs

376. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether International Labour Organisation (ILO) has urged the Government to fulfil its commitment on safeguarding labour laws in the Special Economic Zones;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether global experiences suggests the SEZs have infringed upon the rights of the workers; and